

James Hood Place
Near Florence, Ala.
(3 miles W.)

HABS No. ^{ALA} 16-331

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Lauderdale Co.

PHOTOGRAPHS

District No. 16

Historic American Buildings Survey
E. Walter Burkhardt, District Officer
Ala. Polytechnic Inst., Auburn, Ala.

JAMES HOOD PLACE.
2 $\frac{1}{2}$ Miles from Florence,
Florence, Lauderdale County, Alabama.

Ownership:

Present Owner: Dr. S. S. Roberts.

Previous Owners: James Hood.
Mary A. Hood & son.
John Murray Hood.
Martin Weakley & Co.
Alexander D. Coffee.
Dr. S. S. Roberts.
John Hood, U. S. Navy.

Date of Erection: 1830 - 1832.

Architect: Nathaniel H. Marks, *Contractor*

Builder: James. Hood.

Present Condition: Good.

Number of Stories: Two.

Materials of Construction: Brick made on the place; one story wings on each side; additions to rear; pitched roof.

Other Existing Records:

See: Birmingham News, June 24, 1934.

"ALABAMA POSSESSOR OF RICH HERITAGE"
By E. Walter Burkhardt, District Officer, HABS.

See: Birmingham News, September 23, 1934.

"TENNESSEE VALLEY PLANTATION HOMES"
By E. Walter Burkhardt, DISTRICT OFFICER, HABS.

See: Birmingham News, December 30, 1934.

"COLONIAL NOTE IN ALABAMA HOMES"
By E. Walter Burkhardt, District Officer, HABS.

Additional Data: James Hood was one of the earliest settlers and developers of Lauderdale County. Was born in Cascum Parish of Ashdig, County of Downe, Ireland, near Belfast. He was in the mereantile business, prior to settling on a plantation, previous to 1810 he had bought a plantation in St. Mary's Parish, near New Orleans, but sold it when he decided to settle in North Alabama. His first purchase of land in North Alabama was made in 1818. 374 acres of virgin forest being purchased directly from the U. S. Government at \$50.00 an acre cash. (lands reduced - later - purchasers not paying oash, benefitted) Later he made other purchases as did his widow and son John. The Hood Plantation contained in all 2 thousand acres, or a little more. A small part of that was sold, and when bought by Martin Weakley and Co. the place numbered 1742 acres. The place was bounded on the north by the Waterloo and Reserve roads; on the east by Cypress Creek and on the south by the Tennessee River, all in one continuous plot; the little being sold on the ragged edges.

John Hood, third son of John and Mary Cornelia Hood- was Alabama's 1st, Admiral, U. S. Navy, born on the Hood Place. See: "Who's Who, 1918 - 1919.

John Hood was born December 3, 1859, graduated U. S. Naval Academy Class 1879. On U. S. S. Maine when blown up at Havana, Spanish American War, commanded U. S. S. Hawk as part of blockading fleet off Havana. Made survey and charts for Pacific Cable 1889-1890. Won the general efficiency pennant * Commanding U. S. S. Delaware & U. S. S. Texas. Reward - announced in letters from President W. H. Taft and President Woodrow Wilson. Member of the General Board of the Navy 1912-1915. Commanded 4th Division Atlantic Fleet, April 1916. After the United States entered the World War, his health failed in three weeks, placed on sick leave and retired list, died February 11, 1919.

Source of Material:

Mary Chalmers Hood.
Florence, Alabama,

Compiled by:

Katherine Floyd.
Auburn, Alabama.

Approved:

E. Walter Burkhardt, A. P. I.
Auburn, Alabama.

Date : 3-22-1937.